REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasuda et al. (US 4,842,371) in view of Saishu et al. (US 5,949,391).

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have amended claims 1, 9 and 12 to further define the invention, and canceled claims 2 and 10 without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention, and claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements. The applicants have amended claims 1, 9 and 12 to be clear to one having ordinary skill in the art in view of the Examiner's comments set forth in Sections 4-13 of the Final Office

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Applicants respectfully submit herewith a Submission of Replacement Formal Drawings including sixteen (16) sheets of drawings containing eighteen (18) drawing figures to be substituted for the previously filed drawings in the above-identified application. In FIG. 14, the note "DURING THE TRANSFERENCE TEMPERATURE PERIOD NECESSARY TO THE ELECTRIC FIELD ALIGNMENT (Tsn)" has been amended to read "DURING THE ELECTRIC FIELD ALIGNMENT."

Action. Since claims 2 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, the rejection thereof becomes moot. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C 103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yasuda et al. in view of Saishu et al. To the extent that the rejection might be reapplied to the claims as presently amended, it is respectfully traversed as being based on references that, whether taken individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest the novel combination of features recited in the claims.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1, as newly-amended, recites a combination of elements including, for example, "supplying a gate voltage at a level greater than a threshold voltage of the thin film transistors during an electric field alignment of the ferroelectric liquid crystal material to the plurality of gate lines, the electric field alignment of the ferroelectric liquid crystal material is performed in a period that the ferroelectric liquid crystal material is transitioned from a nematic phase to a smectic phase, wherein the gate voltage is supplied to the gate lines in a range of from ten to four-hundred times during the electric field alignment of the ferroelectric liquid crystal material; and inverting a polarity of a data voltage for the electric field alignment every time when the gate voltage is supplied to the gate lines and supplying the inverted data voltage for the electric field alignment to the data lines, wherein an electric field generated from the inverted data voltage is applied to the ferroelectric liquid crystal material by using a leakage current of the thin film transistors."

Claim 9 is allowable over the cited reference in that claim 9, as newly-amended, recites a combination of elements including for example, "a liquid crystal panel having a plurality of data lines, a plurality of gate lines and a plurality of thin film transistors arranged in a zigzag configuration between adjacent data lines of the data lines and having a ferroelectric liquid crystal material; a gate driving circuit for supplying a gate voltage to the plurality of gate lines, the gate voltage set at a level above a threshold voltage of the thin film transistors during an electric field alignment of the ferroelectric liquid crystal material, the electric field alignment of the ferroelectric liquid crystal material is performed in a period that the ferroelectric liquid crystal material is transitioned from a nematic phase to a smectic phase, wherein the gate voltage is supplied to the gate lines in a range of from ten to four-hundred times during the electric field alignment of the ferroelectric liquid crystal material; and a data driving circuit for inverting a polarity of a data voltage for the electric field alignment every time when the gate voltage is supplied to the gate lines and supplying the inverted data voltage for the electric field alignment to the data lines, wherein an electric field generated from the inverted data voltage is applied to the ferroelectric liquid crystal material by using a leakage current of the thin film transistors."

The cited reference, whether taken singly or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the above-noted features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 9 as well as 12, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the remarks to place the application in clear condition for allowance or, in the alternative, in better form for appeal. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. ∋1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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